

**From:** Domenech, Douglas  
**To:** [Randal Bowman](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: From ASG Attorney General  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 22, 2017 6:15:56 PM

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Doug Domenech  
Senior Advisor  
US Department of the Interior

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **McDermott, Joseph** <[joseph\\_mcdermott@ios.doi.gov](mailto:joseph_mcdermott@ios.doi.gov)>  
Date: Tue, Aug 22, 2017 at 6:57 PM  
Subject: From ASG Attorney General  
To: Douglas Domenech <[douglas\\_domenech@ios.doi.gov](mailto:douglas_domenech@ios.doi.gov)>  
Cc: Nikolao Pula <[nikolao\\_pula@ios.doi.gov](mailto:nikolao_pula@ios.doi.gov)>

- To remove Rose Atoll from Federal monument status and to return it to the American Samoa Government, which will be responsible for the atoll's preservation.
- To allow U.S. Pacific fishermen and boats to fish within the waters of what are now the Federal monuments in the Pacific.

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The Secretary of War carried out the President's insular responsibilities:

- from December 13, 1898, in the Division of Customs and Insular Affairs
- from December 10, 1900, in the Division of Insular Affairs, and
- from July 1, 1902, in the Bureau of Insular Affairs, which was abolished July 1, 1939

Executive Order No. 6726 of May 29, 1934, established in the Department of the Interior the Division of Territories and Island Possessions, which was renamed:

- the Office of Territories on July 28, 1950
- the Office of Territorial Affairs on July 1, 1971

- the Office of Territorial and International Affairs on June 6, 1980, and
- the Office of Insular Affairs on August 4, 1995

Secretary's Order No. 3287 (July 2, 2009) restored the Assistant Secretaryship. Through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Office of Insular Affairs the Secretary of the Interior is the civil administrator of thirteen of the fourteen U.S. territories (all but Puerto Rico). [*Vide* the Presidential Memorandum of July 25, 1961, the ninth anniversary of the creation of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.] Please note that every E-mail message that I send or receive is subject to release under Freedom of Information Act requirements.